

September 1994

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF THE NETHERLAND'S FOR
CATS AND DOGS FROM THE UNITED STATES

CONSULAAT - GENERAAL DER NEDERLANDEN
Consulate - General of the Netherlands

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Information regarding the importation of cats and dogs into the Netherlands.

I) Cats and dogs:

Importing a dog or cat into The Netherlands, or transiting through The Netherlands to a third country, will only be permitted if, upon arrival at the border, the following document is submitted.

A certificate of rabies vaccination, issued by a veterinary surgeon who has been officially recognized or admitted to practice in the United States. This certificate must meet the following requirements:

The certificate of rabies vaccination must contain a statement in the Dutch or English language, to the effect that the animal has been inoculated with a U.S. approved rabies vaccine, which has been officially inspected and approved in the United States.

Futhermore, it must show:

- a) The date of vaccination, the type of vaccine used and its expiration date, the name of the manufacturer and the batch number;
- b) A description of the animal, specifying sex, age, breed, color and type of hair.
- c) The name of the owner of the animal.

The certificate must indicate that vaccination took place:

- If the dog or cat was vaccinated before reaching the age of 3 months: at least 30 days and not more than 3 months before the date on which the animal will pass the Netherlands border;
- If the dog or cat was vaccinated after reaching the age of 3 months: at least thirty days and not more than 1 year before the date on which the animal will pass the Netherlands border.

**THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT HAVE TO BE LEGALIZED BY THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.**

The following additional advice may be of value to visitors of The Netherlands:

It has come to our attention that many U.S. carriers may request a certificate of good health, issued by a veterinary surgeon who has been officially recognized or admitted to practice in the United States of America. This certificate must confirm that the animal has been examined and found free of any disease; it should be dated not more than 10 days before the date of departure from the U.S. Although the Netherlands authorities do not require this certificate, it is nevertheless advisable to obtain such a document at the proper time before leaving the United States;

- 1.) Several municipalities in The Netherlands require that dogs be kept on a leash, in order to promote traffic security.
- 2.) Dutch police officers and other authorized officials may request you to show them the rabies certificate.
- 3.) If, upon arrival at the border, the animal is not accompanied by the required certificate, entry into The Netherlands will be refused and the animal returned to its country of origin.